LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented) A method for delivering a polynucleotide to the cytoplasm of a cell comprising:
    a) condensing said polynucleotide with a polycation to form a binary complex;
    b) associating said binary complex with a negatively charged reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer to form a ternary complex wherein said reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer comprises a membrane active polyamine to which a plurality of disubstituted maleic anhydride derivatives are reversibly linked via pH labile bonds; and,
    c) delivering said ternary complex to said cell wherein said ternary complex is endocytosed.

20-21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein said polycation is crosslinked to said reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer via a pH-labile bond.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein said membrane active polyamine disrupts an endocytic membrane thereby providing delivery of said molecule the cytoplasm of said cell.

24-26. (canceled)

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein said disubstituted maleic anhydride derivatives are derived from reaction of said membrane active polymer with disubstituted maleic anhydrides selected from the group consisting of: carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride, carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride-thioester, and carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride-polyehtylene glycol.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein said inhibitors are cleaved from said polyamine in an endosome.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein said membrane active polymer has a molecular weight greater than 10,000 Daltons.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein said ternary complex consists of a nanoparticle.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said nanoparticle consists of a salt stable nanoparticle.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein said complex has a net negative charge.